

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

NOVEL METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR ALLEVIATING PAIN

The present invention provides a method for the long-term relief of chronic pain in a subject by

5 activating in the subject an analgesic α -adrenergic receptor in the absence of α -2A receptor activation over a period of at least three days, such that relief of chronic pain is maintained in the absence of continued activation of said receptor. The analgesic α -adrenergic

10 receptor can be, for example, the α -2B receptor.